



## Commonwealth of Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Hopkins County Coal, LLC Receives Award for Mine Reclamation from Department for Natural Resources** *Annual Commissioner's award recognizes outstanding reclamation efforts*

**FRANKFORT, Ky. – (Jan. 17, 2013)** – Steve Hohmann, commissioner of the Department for Natural Resources, presented a 2012 Commissioner's Award of Excellence in Reclamation to Hopkins County Coal, LLC for outstanding reclamation work on permit 854-0216 located in Hopkins County near the community of Madisonville.

Hopkins County Coal successfully established a diverse post-mining land use that includes "hay land/pasture," "fish and wildlife habitat," permanent open water impoundments, stream restoration (Little Flat Creek) and several seasonal shallow water depressions. The company's mining and reclamation activity on this 318-acre surface mining operation closely followed a detailed set of plans specifically developed for the site.

The site was nominated by Division of Mine Reclamation and Enforcement (DMRE) Madisonville Regional Office inspection personnel and selected because of the company's outstanding reclamation work and its continued commitment to environmental stewardship. "As a result of your dedicated efforts, this site is an outstanding example of the exceptional reclamation that can be achieved by today's mining industry," said Commissioner Hohmann.

Also attending the event was Sen. Jerry Rhoads, of Madisonville, who added, "I appreciate all that Hopkins County Coal does for our community. They provide energy and jobs, and they do it responsibly. This reclamation site is just one example. I congratulate them on this much-deserved recognition."

In further recognition of the Commissioner's award, Rep. Ben Waide, of Madisonville, presented a Kentucky House of Representatives Citation to the company. In his presentation, Rep. Waide said, "The people of Hopkins County are so proud of Hopkins County Coal and our friends and neighbors who work so hard to protect our community and provide energy for our business and our homes."

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